

### National Policies

Please visit the website below for links to national directives related to your care.

<http://www.patientcare.va.gov/LGBT/index.asp>

Directive 1341 "Providing Health Care for Transgender and Intersex Veterans." Released 2018.

Directive 1340 "Provisions of Health Care for Veterans Who Identify as Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual." Released 2017.

### All Veterans are Welcome Here

An estimated one million Veterans identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT), and have served America with honor and distinction.

The VA has implemented nation wide, LGBT Veteran Care Coordinator Program (VCC).

The LGBT Veteran Care Coordinators

- Assist LGBT Veterans and their families in navigating the VA healthcare system
- Provide community resources
- Facilitate LGBT Veteran programs



**VA St. Louis is committed to equality.**

Since 2013, VA St. Louis Healthcare System has been recognized as a

**Leader in LGBTQ Healthcare Equality**  
by the Human Rights Campaign

## The VA has ZERO TOLERANCE

for discriminatory behavior by Veteran patients, visitors or staff on St. Louis VA premises or at our community clinics.

If you feel you or a family member has been treated unfairly or discriminated against because of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, or for assistance with a concern or complaint, please contact LGBT VCC.

**LGBT Veteran Care Coordinator:**  
**Ebony Brabham, MSW, LCSW**  
**314-652-4100 x66159**

[stllgbt@va.gov](mailto:stllgbt@va.gov)

<https://www.stlouis.va.gov/services/lgbt/index.asp>



<https://www.vets.gov/healthcare/eligibility/>

Or call our eligibility office at  
(314) 652-4100 ext. 54165

## LGBTQ PROGRAMS



### Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Veteran Care Coordinator Program



**For VA St. Louis HCS**  
**Patients and their families**





**We Serve All Who Served**

We also provide cross-sex hormone therapy, psychological evaluations for readiness for CSHT, speech therapy, prosthetics referrals for everything from gaffs and packers to wigs, and affirmative primary care. Your provider or LGBT Veteran Care Coordinator or PCP can help coordinate this referral for you



The LGBT VCCs also serve as a point of contact for information and advocacy for LGBT Veteran-related healthcare issues at St. Louis VA and our associated CBOCs.  
LGBT VCC:

Ebony Brabham, MSW, LCSW  
314-642-4100 ext. 66159  
stllgbt@VA.GOV

## Groups/Education Offered

### Transgender Resiliency & Education Group

Group meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Contact: Dr. Wiegman (314) 652-4100 x63676

### Gender Transition Speech-Language Group

Group meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month at 1:00 p.m. via VVC

Contact: Megan Young (314) 652-4100 x64843

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### Whole Health Coaching

Health Coaches provide an empowering & supportive relationship by partnering with Veterans as they work towards their personal health plan goals. We start by asking “*What matters to you*” instead of “What is the matter with you”.

Contact: 314-289-6583 to schedule Intro to WH

### Taking Charge of My Life & Health Group - Women

Thursdays 1:30 – 3:00; VVC for 6 weeks

A safe space for women who are ready to begin or continue a journey of self-discovery that will promote health and wellbeing. This group encourages self-reflection, sharing, support, growth, and authenticity.

Contact: 314-289-6583 to schedule Intro to WH

### Introduction to Mindfulness:

Mondays @ 1 pm for 4 weeks

Offers students a safe place to learn about the power of mindfulness for health/healing & gain familiarity with establishing a regular mindfulness meditation practice.

Contact: 314-289-6583 to schedule Intro to WH

### Serving All Who Served Health Education Group for LGBT Veterans. (starting in Fall of 2021)

Fridays at 1 pm for 10 week intervals

Focuses on topics such as identity, access to resources, relationship issues, and general health and wellness concerns.

Contact: Waverly Pinkston (314) 652-4100 x67792

## **You matter!**

As a VA St. Louis Health Care System patient, you and your family are protected from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

•Our **Patient Non-Discrimination Policy** specifically prohibits harassment or discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation/gender identity, whether you are being seen at the hospital or one of our community clinics for outpatient care, are admitted for an inpatient stay, or reside in our Community Living Center.

•Our **Visitation Policy** allows a same-sex partner, family member, friend, or other individual to be present with the patient for emotional support during the course of their stay. Same-sex partners are recognized as the patient’s family, even if the partners are not legally married.

•Members of “family” include spouses, domestic partners, and both different-sex and same-sex significant others.

